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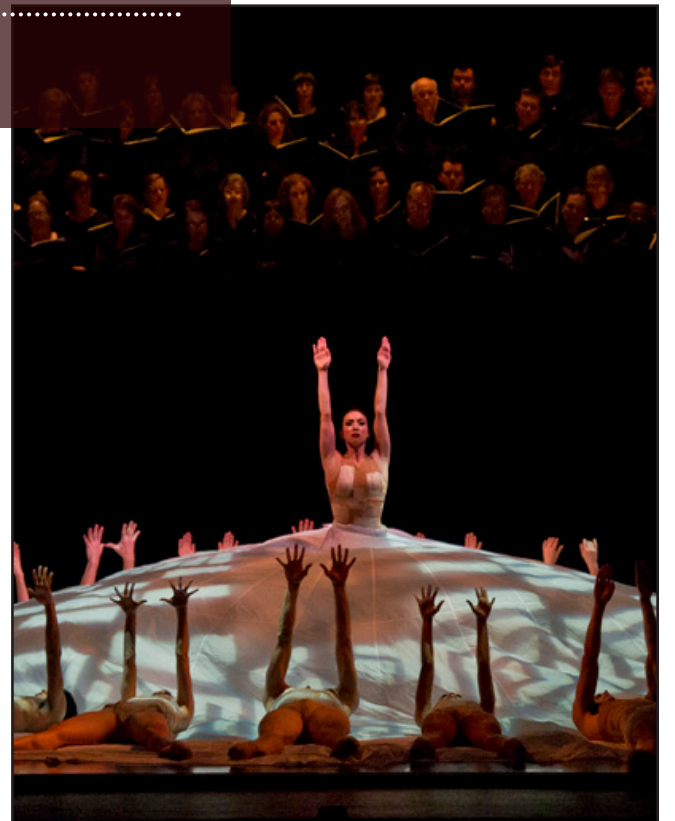
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YEAR IN REVIEW

Recaps on the top stories of 2012-2013

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What’s Current

“What’s Current” is the weekly calendar of UMSL campus events and is a free service for student organizations. Submissions must be turned in by 5 p.m. the Thursday before publication; first-come, first-served. Listings may be edited for length and style. E-mail event listings to thecurrenttips@umsl.edu, with the subject “What’s Current.” No phone or written submissions.

TUESDAY, MAY 7

Commuter Break: Juice and Granola Bars

University Program Board will be serving free juice and granola bars while supplies last by the MSC Ponds starting at 9 a.m. For information, contact Katie Green or other UPB member at 3145165531.

Economics Guest Speaker Thomas Wyrick

Professor Thomas Wyrick of Missouri State University speaks on “Market Reaction to Systemic Risk: Impediment to Monetary Policy and Key to Reform,” 2 - 3:30 p.m. in 331 SSB. A student of Nobel Prize winner James Buchanan at Virginia Polytechnic Institute, Dr. Wyrick has published articles in journals of economics, political science and law and a textbook, The Economist’s Handbook, has been used in universities both here and abroad to develop the research of skills of economics students. For information, contact Judy Cates at 516-5353

University-Community Chorus Concert

The University-Community Chorus will present an evening of contemporary and traditional choral music, 7:30 p.m. in Touhill Performing Arts Center’s Lee Theater. For information, contact Touhill ticket office at 314-516-4949

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8

Textbook Sell Back

Stop by the UMSL Bookstore to sell back your textbooks starting today. Guaranteed buyback; receive a minimum \$5 for each textbook you sell. For information, contact Stephanie Eaton at 314-516-5763

Study Party

UPB Study Party, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. in Millennium Student Center Century Rooms, offers brain food and a great environment to study for the big test. One room designated for quiet study, and one room designated for group study. The quiet study room will be silent and the group study room will have study music playing. For information, contact Charlie McDonald or other UPB member at 3145165531

ASUM Spring Backyard Picnic BBQ

Join Associated Students of the University of Missouri (ASUM) for free food and conversation on the MSC Patio, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.. ASUM is a nonpartisan student organization that lobbies in Jefferson City on issues that effect students. We need to know what you think in order to represent you. In case of bad weather, the event will move to the Pilot House in the MSC. For information, contact Erin Tinker at 3155166798

UMSL Music Student Chamber Concert

Department of Music student ensembles will perform a variety of classical to contemporary pieces showcasing their amazing skill, 7:30 p.m. in Touhill Performing Arts Center’s Lee Theater. For information, contact Touhill ticket office at 314-516-4949

FRIDAY, MAY 10

New Works: Contemporary Choreographer’s Series

Four new works mark the return of Saint Louis Ballet’s spring repertory program, co-presented with the Touhill Performing Arts Center, Friday, May 10, and Saturday, May 11, at 8 p.m. in Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall. This exciting mixed-bill lineup features world premieres by renowned artist Christopher d’Amboise and Artistic Director Gen Horiuchi that will highlight the dancers’ artistry and technique. The program also features a comedic duet to Rossini’s William Tell Overture choreographed by Dance St. Louis’ Michael Uthoff, and Reflections by The Joffrey Ballet co-founder Gerald Arpino. For information, contact Touhill ticket office at 314-516-4949

SATURDAY, MAY 11

Weekend Tour - Broad Horn Flat Boat

Join the Mercantile Library at UMSL, in the lower level of the Thomas Jefferson Library on north campus, for a free, docent-led tour which focuses on a specific aspect of St. Louis or Missouri history, 11 a.m. - noon. Our weekend tours provide a wonderful opportunity for lively discussions about topics ranging from the founding of St. Louis to the Mercantile’s art collections, plus much more! No reservations are required. Please call 314-516-7248 for more information. For information, contact Valenda Curtis at 314-516-7248

Campus Crimeline

THEFT—SOUTH CAMPUS PARKING GARAGE.

April 26, 2013 – Report # 13-193

An UMSL student reported that between 8:00pm April 25, 2013 and 7:00am April 26, 2013, a window was broken on their parked car and items were stolen. Review of surveillance video revealed an individual breaking the window and removing items from the car, prompting Clery Release 02-2013. Disposition: Report taken.

AUTO ACCIDENT – LACLEDE LANE.

April 26, 2013 – Report # 13-195

Minor accident, two vehicles involved. Disposition: Report taken.

AUTO ACCIDENT – LOT E.

April 26, 2013 – Report # 13-196

Minor accident, two vehicles involved. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT – UNIVERSITY MEADOWS.

April 29, 2013 – Report # 13-199

An UMSL student reported the theft of a bicycle that was left un-secured on a patio. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT – LOT D.

April 29, 2013 – Report # 13-200

An UMSL Student reported a license plate stolen from their parked car. Disposition: Report taken.

THEFT – SOCIAL SCIENCE BUILDING.

May 1, 2013 – Report # 13-207

Petty cash was reported stolen from an office in SSB. Disposition: Report taken.

READ MORE OF THE CURRENT ONLINE:

www.thecurrent-online.com

International Trivia Night offers fun

SIYUN ZHANG STAFF WRITER

The University of Missouri-St. Louis Hispanic Latino Association hosted the first International Trivia Night in the Pilot House on May 1, with sponsorship by the Vietnamese Student Association, China-America Corner, the Chinese Student Association, the Japan America Student Association and the Indian Student Association.

Students and faculty at UMSL were all invited to join this relaxing and fun event that supplied food and drink to all attendees. Different international associations set up their own cultural informational tables in each corner, displaying photos of past activities and offering special snacks that represented their cultures, such as tea and traditional candy.

There were four rounds of question sessions: religion, geography, population and other culture-related issues. Every group wrote down the answers on the answer form. In the end, each member of the group who scored the greatest number of correct answers was awarded with wrapped international candy boxes. There was also a raffle drawing where participants were awarded small prizes.

According to Ana Bolanos, senior, marketing, the main organizer of International Trivia Night, this activity had been planned as early as February.

"I love diversity. I'm always looking for students about different cultures and traditions. I can do the research [about the different cultures] by myself, but it is better that students who personally come from their cultures ... tell people about that," Bolanos said. "The International Trivia Night can put bunches of information about diversity and cultures to the students, so they can become more aware of diversity."

Dayanna Nieto, senior, psychology, president of the Hispanic Latino Association, hopes that students can be made more aware of the truth about different cultures, rather than believe any misconceptions about a given cultural group.

"It just brings other organizations to work together. We have different groups here, so it should be good of them to really interact, get to know each other, have fun and learn something [from this event]," Nieto said.

Before the event started, presidents of various international associations introduced themselves and promoted their organizations briefly.

"I want to show Chinese culture and Chinese organizations for all the students because I think there are just a few opportunities for them to know about the related events, activities we organized

at UMSL, so I think this International Trivia Night is a meaningful event [that will help people get to know us better]," Yue Shen, junior, information systems, president of the Chinese Student Association, said.

"The main goal is provide connection and support for Vietnamese students on campus, [but] also especially promote Vietnamese culture through a lot of events," Nguyen Tran, junior, finance, said.

Andi Kay Schuerman, staff member of the International Student Organization at UMSL, found this activity through students and posters around campus. "I have been enjoying it. I'm really competitive, though, trying to win. But I really like this kind of activity, [with] more different organizations together. Anyway, I will definitely come again [if there is another event hosted]," Schuerman said.

The trivia night was an effective platform to showcase the variety of cultures on campus and facilitate socialization among students from different cultural backgrounds. Participants were able to learn more facts about different cultures during the evening. The event also provided opportunities to exchange and share cultural common knowledge to connect students.



Staff and students of the Center for Trauma and Recovery

MICHAEL PLUMB/ THE CURRENT

Survivor's story caps awareness event

ALBERT NALL STAFF WRITER

The story of Salisa Luster was presented by staff and students of the Center for Trauma Recovery and Student Life on April 30 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in Millennium Student Center 315 as part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month. On April 29, 2008, Luster was attacked, brutally beaten, raped and left for dead in her home in Louisville, Ky.

According to accounts of the attack, Luster had admitted a maintenance man into her apartment to work on the toilet. Luster had strep throat and was on a medication at the time. The maintenance man told Luster that he had fixed her toilet, and Luster let him out and locked her door. Later that night, as she slept, Luster felt a man on top of her. She tried to fight him off, but failed. She did not wake up until sometime on May 1.

Julie Kramer, Luster's supervisor at the University of Phoenix at the time of the attack, was at the seminar. "It was not like Salisa not to show up for work, so we were naturally suspicious," Kramer said. This suspicion led Kramer to go to Luster's apartment. Kramer was described by Cheryl Ellis, Luster's mother, as "the angel that saved my daughter's life."

According to Kramer, she had asked the police to check up on Luster, and the police tried to cover up the crime by denying access to the apartment. "An officer went into the apartment, told us that everything was okay and went about his business like nothing had happened," Kramer said. According to Kramer, the man who attacked Luster has yet to be caught.

The lecture opened with a statement from Ashley Roberts, coordinator of diversity and service in the Office of Student Life, who cited some statistics. According to the statistics, an average of 207,754 people are victims of sexual assaults. In 44 percent of sexual assaults, the victim is under the age of 18, and 80 percent are under 30. Two-thirds of sexual assaults are committed by somebody known to the victim, and 38 percent are committed by a friend or an acquaintance.

"There is a misconception that the face of sexual assault is some stranger, a boogeyman hiding in the bushes," Roberts said. "... It is likely that the perpetrator will not spend time in jail, and this perpetuates the epidemic of under-reporting of sexual crimes by the victims."

Presentations were given by Katie Buchholz, graduate, psychology, and Emily Hu, graduate, psychology, from the Center for Trauma Recovery. Buchholz cited 2010 sexual assault rates as 2.1 assaults for every 1,000 against women and 0.1 per 1,000 against men. Buchholz said that 78 percent of assaults are committed by a non-stranger and 11 percent by an armed perpetrator. "Women who are victims of sexual assaults are at risk for post-traumatic stress disorder, with symptoms appearing in 94 percent of the women one week after the assault," Buchholz said.

"Immediate therapy can speed up recovery, as women who receive early treatment recover faster," Buchholz said.

According to Hu, the reactions of acute stress disorder from a sexual assault include

nightmares and flashbacks, along with the fight-or-flight response.

With victims, there can be such reactions as emotional numbing, avoidance and social withdrawals, Hu said. For survivors, the reactions can include blame of self and others for the attack. Many reactions to the aftermath of an assault, according to Hu, can include such things as being too watchful and feeling in danger all the time. Victims can also be afraid of abrupt noises and associations where a particular man can be mistaken for the attacker, Hu said.

Hu said that loved ones can provide support by validating what the victim feels. Also, family and friends should listen but not push, provide resources if wanted and respect survivors' decisions about reporting.

"A survivor is never at fault. Nobody intends to be raped," Hu said.

According to Ellis, being the victim of a heinous crime leaves great psychological and emotional scars for victims, and it is difficult to return to normal. "I became a member of a club that I did not want to join [as] the mother of a crime victim," Ellis said.

Some resources for those who are victims of sexual assault include the Young Women's Christian Association Sexual Assault Center hotline at 314-531-7273. The Crime Victim Advocacy Center also has a hotline at 314-652-3623. The Center for Trauma Recovery provides low-cost counseling. They can be reached at 314-516-6737.



Leadership Awards were given April 29

MICHAEL PLUMB/ THE CURRENT

Leadership Awards bestowed

ALBERT NALL STAFFWRITER

The Office of Student Life Leadership Awards banquet for 2013 was held in the Century Rooms in the Millennium Student Center on April 29. Awards were given to students and groups who have made exemplary efforts on behalf of the University of Missouri-St. Louis academic community.

Jessica Thornton, coordinator of leadership and training in the Office of Student Life, was the emcee for the annual awards.

Curtis C. Coonrod, the vice provost for student affairs, was awarded the Student Government Association Student Choice Award.

"The purpose of the [Office of Student Life] Leadership Awards is to celebrate the triumphs of student achievers. We appreciate all student accomplishments that advance the university," Coonrod said.

One of the student life groups recognized was the UMSL Students of Service. UMSL Students of Service is an initiative that is funded by the Corporation for National and Community Service. UMSL Students of Service advances the objective of significant and valuable community service and service-based learning. UMSL students become engaged in the development of volunteer opportunities

aimed at addressing pressing housing and education needs in surrounding communities.

One of the initiatives for UMSL Students of Service includes the Habitat for Humanity House and the annual Dr. Martin Luther King Day of Service. According to Thornton, the Emerging Leaders habitat project is taking place in conjunction with the St. Charles Habitat for Humanity chapter. The habitat project is currently in progress.

The Emerging Leaders program gives UMSL students a fast track to student leadership and campus and community involvement. Members are paired up with a student adviser who has previously fulfilled the program or has leadership experience at UMSL.

One of the major winners, Bailey Bollinger, senior, elementary education, was given the Outstanding Contribution to Leadership Award. Bollinger was honored for her role with UMSL Students of Service. She also serves as an Emerging Leaders mentor and is part of Big Brothers, Big Sisters.

The event ended with a PowerPoint slide show that highlighted student life organizations on the UMSL campus.



TEXTBOOK SELLBACK

MAY 8-9

7:30am-7pm

MAY 10

7:30am-5pm

MAY 13-16

7:30am-7pm

MAY 17

7:30am-5pm

MAY 20-21

7:30am-7pm

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*SOME RESTRICTIONS APPLY, SEE BOOK BUYER FOR DETAILS

UMSL BOOKSTORE

The 2012-2013 school year at University of Missouri-St. Louis was a year of changes and big events. Those events ranged from the kick-off to our 50th Jubilee year-long celebration to a change in student fees, and included election-season visits and the resignation of our winning basketball coach. Here is a recap of some of the year's biggest UMSL stories.

RADIO STATION MOVES TO UMSL AT GRAND CENTER



YESEUL PARK/THE CURRENT

2012 was a big year for St. Louis Public Radio. 90.7 KWMU began broadcasting from the new UMSL at Grand Center building on June 18 after having previously been housed in Lucas Hall and Clark Hall.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony and open house was held on Sept. 15 at the site. Those in attendance had the option of witnessing a live radio broadcast and indulging in the treats sold by the various food trucks in attendance. Chancellor Tom George and Tom Eby, general manager of St. Louis Public Radio, delivered speeches during the event. During Eby's speech, he shared a statement issued by St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay, naming Sept. 15 UMSL at Grand Center Day in St. Louis.

Following the ribbon-cutting, those in attendance were given the option of touring the new space, now open to the public. Employees of St. Louis Public Radio were stationed throughout the building, ready to provide visitors with information as well as answer any questions.

UMSL at Grand Center is home to St. Louis Public Radio, community facilities, a newsroom, various classrooms and meeting spaces for the UMSL community and much more. The \$12 million building, located at 3651 Olive Street, has three stories and 27,000 square feet of space.

END OF AN ERA: COACH TAPPMAYER RESIGNS



LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT

By far, the biggest sports story on campus this year was the unexpected resignation of the University of Missouri-St. Louis basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer. Tappmeyer brought UMSL basketball winning seasons for each year he was here, something not done since the earliest years of UMSL basketball. Read more on our Sports page in this issue.

FIRST-EVER GENOMICS SYMPOSIUM AT UMSL



CATE MARQUIS/THE CURRENT

The Biochemistry and Biotechnology program at UMSL hosted "The Symposium on Genomics" on Sept. 28. While this may not be news for universities such as St. Louis University and Washington University, UMSL has not held such an event in recent history. The Biochemistry and Biotechnology program defined genomics as "an area of genetics that involves the study of the genomes or full genetic content of organisms." As part of the event, three seminars on the topic of genomics were offered: "Genomic Approaches to Virus Discovery," presented by David Wang of Washington University; "From Studying Large Cohorts to Analyzing Single Molecules," presented by Pui-Yan Kwok from University of California-San Francisco; and "Microreactor Arrays for Sequencing, Digital PCR and Single Cell Analysis," presented by Peter A. Sims from Columbia University.

'CARMINA BURANA' PERFORMANCE AT TOUHILL



COURTESY OF DANCE ST. LOUIS

Dance St. Louis presented "Carmina Burana" for three performances in the Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall in the Touhill Feb. 22-24. The performance, which commemorated UMSL's fiftieth anniversary, featured dancers from the Nashville Ballet, UMSL University Orchestra and Singers, the Bach Society of St. Louis and the St. Louis Children's Choirs.

PBS 'WASHINGTON WEEK' COMES TO UMSL



CATE MARQUIS/THE CURRENT

"Washington Week," the longest-running primetime news and public affairs program on television, visited UMSL on the cusp of the 2012 election. On Sept. 28, the popular PBS program, which airs locally on KETC/Nine Network on Fridays, hosted a taping of two episodes in the Touhill's Anheuser-Busch Performance Hall.

"Washington Week," hosted by journalist Gwen Ifill, is a news show wherein a group of journalists participate in a roundtable discussion of major topics in the news. During the Touhill taping, Ifill and panel discussed the theoretical impact of early voting on the 2012 election and the senate.

UMSL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY JUBILEE



LEON DEVANCE/THE CURRENT

In 1963, UMSL became the first public university in St. Louis. Over 1,500 people attended the dedication ceremony on Sept. 15, 1963. Half a century later, UMSL began celebrating its fiftieth anniversary in 2013 with a year-long roster of events. The Jubilee Anniversary Kick-Off Celebration was held on Feb. 1 at the Touhill. In honor of the occasion, UMSL alumnus and KSDK sports anchor Frank Cusumano served as master of ceremonies. Those in attendance were treated to music and dancing, along with a healthy dose of UMSL history. A program featuring a look back at those who have helped shape UMSL's progress throughout the years was a highlight of the night.

As part of the UMSL Jubilee celebration, organizations and departments from every corner of campus have planned events of their own throughout the year, from seminars and presentations to beautification projects. One such project was the UMSL Jubilee Glass Pane Project, which consisted of the unveiling of "UMSL in Glass," a newly commissioned statue that lies on the southwest lawn of the MSC.

For more information on UMSL's year of celebration, including a full list of planned events, visit umsl.edu/jubilee.

PEABODY ENERGY PROTEST



DAN COHN/MORE

Peabody Energy, formerly known as Peabody Coal, donated \$750,000 in September 2012 toward the renovation of science labs in Benton Hall and Stadler Hall and will be granted naming rights for the labs, as well.

News of the donation was met with protest by UMSL students and others in the St. Louis community. In October, David Scott, senior, secondary education, voiced concerns about the Peabody donations, citing the negative environmental effects of mining and Peabody's history in the coal industry and urging UMSL to reject the donation. Dr. Ronald Yasbin, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, wrote an open letter defending the university's decision to accept the donation, which was published on the St. Louis Post-Dispatch website.

On Oct. 26, a group convened in the MSC before marching across campus to Chancellor George's office in Woods Hall to protest the Peabody donation, urging UMSL to return the donation and distance itself from Peabody and the coal industry. Bob Samples, associate vice chancellor of communications, met with the protestors to schedule a meeting with George at a later date.

CHANGES TO UMSL FEES ON THE WAY



JENNY LIN/THE CURRENT

All the talk was about parking passes, but changes to fees for attending UMSL will impact students starting next fall.

Many of the proposed fee changes were announced at SGA meetings in the fall. The first was the per-credit-hour cost of the new Recreation Center approved last spring, which will be \$19.25 per credit hour, to be capped at 12 hours per semester (\$231). At the end of the semester, the SGA approved a new proposal to eliminate the separate tuition and student fees structure and go with a single combined fee. Online students will no longer be able to opt out of fees for use of the gym, and students who do not drive will no longer be able to opt out of parking fees, as there will be only a single per-credit-hour charge, but all students will be issued a parking pass. Students will no longer see a break-down of how fees are spent, and the university is also changing to a more "single pot" approach to funding the various campus divisions and functions. When the University of Missouri curators met on the UMSL campus this fall, they also approved a tuition hike for UMSL.

Students will see all these changes to the cost attending UMSL starting next fall, except the charge for the Rec Center, which will come online when the facility opens in 2015. Construction is expected to start this fall. The SGA estimated the cost of attending for 2013-2014 will be slightly lower, but how student fees are spent is now less transparent.

STUDENT DEBT DISCUSSION AND UMSL DOCUMENTARY



CATE MARQUIS/THE CURRENT

Student debt has been a hot topic at UMSL this year. A new student organization, Young Activists United, hosted a discussion forum on Feb. 6, inviting students, staff and faculty members to meet and discuss the growing problem of student debt and how it affects the UMSL community. Young Activists United and the dean's Committee on Social Justice in the College of Education also hosted a Student Debt film series, "Higher Education, Access, and Equity," starting last fall. The series concluded in April 2013 with the premiere of student-made documentary called "How The Debt Crisis Impacts UMSL." The screening was followed by a discussion session moderated by Alice Floros, senior, history education, intercampus coordinator with Young Activists United, St. Louis and Dr. Carl Hoagland, teaching professor and Emerson Electric endowed professor of technology and learning. Plans for further screenings of the documentary are underway.



Step Accord Duet performing on the Touhill stage for Russian Seasons.

SARAH MYERS/ THE CURRENT

Musicians bring spirit of Russia to Touhill

ANYA GLUSHKO
FEATURES EDITOR

Last October, the Russian city of Samara hosted a group of University of Missouri-St. Louis piano students. Alla Voskoboinikova, teaching associate professor of music and the director of keyboard studies, led the trip, along with four of her piano students and James Richards, interim dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication at UMSL. The group visited the cities of Samara, Moscow and Voronezh.

St. Louis is the official sister city of Samara. The relationship was first established in 1992. The committee, which was formed as an all-volunteer organization, works with hospitals, universities, regional municipalities and businesses to promote the two cities.

This month, musicians from Samara and UMSL piano students collaborated during a performance on April 28 in the E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater of the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center.

The concert began with a pre-show discussion that included pictures, stories and memories. The speech demonstrated the highlights of alluring sightseeing, performances and lecture classes.

All of the speakers remarked on Russia's hospitality and friendliness. "The whole time we were treated like royalty ... They treated us like gods," Voskoboinikova said. Organizers of the program mentioned that this project is "not like any others," that "it serves as a bridge" between two cities and helps to break stereotypes and barriers. They also wished that there was more peace between the two countries and said that through mutual collaboration this task can be successfully achieved.

"Everybody starts with a dream," Voskoboinikova said. She shared that before the trip became possible, she had a desire to introduce her students to her own teacher, who is still teaching and who remains an inspiration for her.

"And it all happened; it's almost like a miracle for us. This is just a dream coming true," she said.

One of the main organizers of the program, Dmitri Kabargin, was presented with Balalaika, Samarian vodka and complementary glass shots. Voskoboinikova received Log'kas, or musical spoons. "This will help me to improve my rhythm," she said.

In the first half of the concert, Daniel Dickson, senior, music;

Jue Hou, junior, business administration; and Thomas Winkler, senior, music, performed famous Russian works. Each student gave a short introductory note about the history and content of the piece they played. Music selections featured the some of the best-known compositions of Sergei Rachmaninoff, Sergei Prokofiev and Dmitri Shostakovich.

Step Accord Duet performed a variety of songs and dances that included some traditional musical selections. The audience reacted with loud claps and cheers to the energetic moves of Samarkin and virtuous accordion performance of Adaykin. Adaykin also played some improv balalaika, a Russian folk stringed musical instrument.

A beautiful duo of Voskoboinikova on piano and Debby Lennon on soprano vocals followed the intermission. John Nuckols, graduate, non-degree, and Daniel Kuehler, junior, music, performed works of Sergei Rachmaninoff and Pyotr Il'yich Tchaikovsky.

A beautiful exhibition of artwork by Konstantin Koublanov was displayed in the Lee Theater lobby, bringing a feel of winter and nature scenery. A reception with the artist concluded the performance.

Gospel Choir gives Jubilee concert

LATWUANNA TROUPE
STAFF WRITER

Dynamic. Powerful. Soulful. These are just a few words to describe the University of Missouri-St. Louis Gospel Choir, which hosted their second concert, celebrating UMSL's fiftieth anniversary in the Blanche M. Touhill Performing Arts Center's E. Desmond and Mary Ann Lee Theater on May 2.

The hype surrounding this event could not be trampled by the rainy night. It was the choir's first time performing in the Touhill, a special night for them. A wide range of people from family, friends, students and the general public came out to support the group of talented singers.

The evening began with a performance by the Praise and Worship team, giving the audience a taste of what was to come by singing "High Praise," "Happy" and "More Than Anything."

Following these selections, it was time to bring out the main event: the UMSL Gospel Choir. As the crowd rose to their feet, the choir appeared ready to give their all. They performed 12 selections that evening with great energy, led by the choir's director Monte Chambers. They began with "The Lord's Prayer," then the crowd was brought to their feet with "This is the Day" and "Oh Clap Your Hands," performed by senior Sharee Jones leading the way. "Hosanna" was performed by Iriah Wilkerson, freshman, undeclared. This was followed by a soothing rendition of "Hallelujah, Praise the Lord" and "When I Think." Each choir member brought a unique quality and sound to the choir. The selections complemented all of their voices to bring the best sound and quality of music for a great night.

Before intermission, Tiffany Thompson, secretary of the Gospel Choir, gave a brief history of the choir. After intermission, the choir performed songs such as "Never Again" to get the

crowd excited once again. Next came "Great is our God" and "Spirit of the Living God," with Stephanie Wooten and Katrina Magnusen, president of Gospel Choir, gracefully leading the song. Tanema Foster, freshman, biology, performed "Every Moment In Your Hands." The choir continued to lift spirits with songs like "How Great" and "God is Great." The final song of the evening was "Take me to the King," performed by Magnusen, whose powerful voice was magnified throughout the theater. The audience responded to the performance with ecstatic applause.

Some people had not been to a Gospel Choir concert before; the concert was also their first time visiting the Touhill.

"I found out about this event because I kept seeing posters about Gospel Choir. This was my first time attending a musical performance at the Touhill; the performance was great," Demarko Timmons, junior, biology, said. "I would tell a lot more people next time so they can experience the Gospel Choir."

Many felt that the Touhill was a great place to host this event because it helped attract a wider range of people to come out and support. Chambers was very proud of the all the hard work the band and choir members put in to make this a dazzling event.

"It wasn't just my show. The choir did an outstanding job. They did a phenomenal job in their preparation, and I do believe with everybody's help, the volunteers, musicians, the assistants, coordinators and everybody, we were all on one accord and we did a fantastic job, in my opinion," Chambers said.

"[I'm] hoping that students took away a lot of energy, a lot of passion, a lot of heart ... [It's] an organization that thrives on energy. I'm hoping that individuals actually took away a great experience that not only penetrated the heart but actually caused second thought, if you will," Chambers said.

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**FOR
HONOR**

POINT/COUNTERPOINT

U.S. should cut back on defense spending

Are you concerned about the federal debt and deficit? Then you should support a cut in military spending.

While there is endless talk about “entitlement spending” (i.e. Social Security and Medicare), the real driver of the federal debt and the deficit is military spending. Social Security and Medicare have dedicated revenue streams — those payroll taxes taken out of every paycheck. Actually, these two retirement systems are very cost-efficient and have worked well over the years. They only need a small tweak to continue for years to come, and even that is mostly to compensate for the surpluses that were taken out of what should have been treat-

ed as a trust fund. That money was drained off to pay for military spending, a raid that started with Reagan. Even as recently as the 2000 election campaign, Al Gore was talking about putting Social Security funds in a “lock box.” The Bush administration finished off the surplus.

But won’t cutting military spending make us less safe? Actually, no. Here is the truth about our military spending: Little of the Pentagon’s budget actually goes to support troops in the field or other practical defense matters. Most of the half trillion the Pentagon gets each year is spent on big-ticket weapons programs designed to fight the old Soviet Union, weapons that are actually useless against mod-

ern security threats. Half of our annual discretionary spending budget (the spending that does not have that dedicated revenue stream) goes to the military. In fact, every year, we spend as much as the entire rest of the world combined on our military. What’s more, military programs usually top the General Accountability Office’s reports on wasteful government spending. What drives this out-of-control spending? Weapons manufacturers and private military contractors whose campaign donations and lobbying keep the corporate welfare rolling in. In fact, we would have more tax money for both jobs and real security if we would just cut the corporate welfare in defense.

U.S. should not cut back on defense spending

The United States should not cut back on defense spending. The Department of Defense spends so much money because it is necessary.

The U.S. has done a lot of things in the past to gain even more enemies. Before the unfortunate events of 9/11, the U.S. had already taken measures to defend this country, but those steps were not enough. The DOD is spending the amount of money that they are spending because they do not want another episode like the one that happened on 9/11 to happen again.

Before, the DOD mainly focused on external threats from

other countries, but this has now changed with the series of unfortunate events that recently occurred in Boston, Mass., and before that in Newtown, Conn. The days when you could enjoy life without worrying about someone attacking you are a thing of the past. Including the shooting in the movie theatre in Aurora, Colo., no one feels like they enjoy the simple things in life anymore. This is why the DOD will continue to spend more money. They now have to pay more attention to the American home front because domestic incidents are the hardest ones to defend and prevent.

Imagine how the U.S. would be

if the DOD did not have the funding that they currently have. It is possible that several more attacks could have occurred by now if defense funding had been reduced as many Americans wish. Admittedly, catastrophes still happen, even with the amount of money the U.S. is spending on defense. But if the DOD did not have the money it has now to employ its people and have the necessary technology, even more people would be hurt.

Saying that the U.S. is spending too much money on defending its citizens is putting a price on human lives. It’s like asking: How much is human life worth?

COLUMN *The Chopping Block*

Dear Freshman Me: Two years of playing around

HUNG NGUYEN
OPINIONS EDITOR



As I approach the end of my second year, I have one more thing that I would have told my freshman self if I had the chance. I would have told myself to let me find my way and search around; it is a lot of fun playing around in the dark. As a society, so much emphasis is placed on knowing what to do and setting goals that I think the present drifts by without any sense of loss.

Many freshmen enter the university each fall thinking that they have a mission to get their degrees and that they should really just do that and nothing else. The mistake in doing that is to lose yourself along the way. In my first year, I was trying to find a footing academically as well as gain perspective into what career I really wanted to go into. I forgot to stop and ask myself why I was doing what I was doing. I forgot to consider whether, at its core, the life that I was practicing to live was really a life I wanted for me. I think I kept asking but wouldn’t let an answer be produced in my head, not one that I would accept, anyway. At the end of last summer, a few weeks before this year began, I allowed myself to ask and listen.

I don’t think I’ve done anything thus far that I did not want to do just because someone insisted. I’m just not that type of person, I guess. But I think I’ve continued in some areas for longer than I should have because I thought I needed or owed it to myself to pursue it. That, I think, is a problem with our society. I think some of the things we decide to go after, we do so because we think it’ll make things easier in the long run or that we’ll be happy later if we suffer now. For some things, like

final exams a week from now, that is true. For others, it’s a sad excuse to do something: not because your heart is 100 percent in it, but because you feel like you should. It’s like sticking around with a girlfriend when you simply aren’t feeling it anymore.

I don’t think I wasted any time in the past two years, because whether or not I’m going to pursue certain things I’ve started, I let myself “play around” and let myself find out who I really am and what I really want out of life, not the 17-year-old me who read a lot of brochures, deciding his life with a series of checklists that added to nothing since he didn’t do any of the things on them. He found better times when he simply stopped and breathed, listened to a few albums he thought he’d hate and spent a few nights doing things he probably would have regretted at 17. He took a class he thought would be a waste of time to find out he loved it.

I would have told my freshman self to forget some of the career advice I received from those who meant well but simply made my shoulders too heavy with what I should do and what I needed to do. I think I opened my eyes each day knowing what would happen, and it was reassuring and safe. I think it’s more exciting now to know that tomorrow isn’t here yet, and today feels much more significant because I know that.

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UMSL Triton Neil Branham tries to block a shot.

LEON DEVANCE/ THE CURRENT

Tappmeyer resigns

LEON DEVANCE
SPORTS EDITOR

The sudden resignation of head basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer has left University of Missouri-St. Louis with a big question to answer: Where do we go from here?

Before Tappmeyer arrived in 2010, the program was in a free-fall, as Mark Bernsen produced one .500 season in four years, and Chris Pilz produced one winning season in seven years.

Tappmeyer brought stability with his motion offense and tough man-to-man defense, immediately leading UMSL to the Great Lakes Valley Conference playoffs. But in 2013, UMSL went into a nosedive.

Tappmeyer's resignation follows the departure of Charlie Woods, senior, psychology, for personal reasons. UMSL finished the 2012-13 regular season with a 4-3 record after Woods' departure and finished 17-11. UMSL lost a first-round tournament game to Indianapolis, 74-63, in the Deaconess Tournament. In those seven games, opponents discovered that UMSL had no inside presence to stop them. Opponents pounded the ball inside against UMSL, Dillon Deck of William Jewell dominated UMSL in the paint with 28 points or passed the ball around

until they found an open shooter and Maryville's Asa Toney torched UMSL for 26 points.

Tappmeyer tried to adjust to Woods' departure by inserting forward Kevin Dwyer, junior, business, into the post. But Dwyer was undersized to play defense against the bigger post players and was often in foul trouble. Woods' absence exposed UMSL's defensive failings. On defense, Woods' presence prevented point guards from driving the lanes and then dishing off to the big inside.

The offense shifted from a three-guard lineup to a four-guard lineup as UMSL attempted to spread the players to the corners. The three-guard lineup relies on the ability to create shots and convert shots. The four-guard lineup, too, requires guards to create and convert shots, but also requires them to hit the three-point basket almost 50 percent of the time and have an inside presence.

Tappmeyer's hands were tied. A coach goes into a game with a game plan to maximize his team strengths and minimize their weaknesses. In-game coaching requires adjustments. If Darian Cartharn, junior, communications, or Aareon Smith, sophomore, business, were off in their shooting, Joshua McCoy, senior, communications,

then had a bigger burden: providing more points.

Tappmeyer stabilized the program, seeking to create a program that rivals the blue-bloods of college basketball.

For UMSL, this is a critical hire because Director of Athletics Lori Flanagan has a tough decision to make. Flanagan should hire a young coach who can grow with and continue Tappmeyer's vision and build the program the way Tappmeyer envisioned it. She should question the new coach about his offense. Will he run the motion offense or will he have a fast break offense? Will the new coach install a trapping defense that seeks to cause turnovers, pressure defense or zone defense? Can the new coach recruit talent to UMSL? Can the new coach make in-game adjustments? Can the new coach game plan for an opponent? Where does the new coach see the program in the future? How will he get the program in line with his vision?

These are some of the questions Flanagan must ask in the hiring process. If Flanagan misses on the new coach, then Tappmeyer's vision of residing with the blue-bloods of college basketball will take a serious hit.

SPORTS RECAP

In the 2012-13 sports season, University of Missouri-St. Louis athletics made headlines on and off the field.

The big story that dominated the UMSL headlines was the unexpected resignation of basketball coach Steve Tappmeyer.

Baseball player Kyle Renaud was named UMSL senior male student athlete of the year and became UMSL's all-time single leader in saves with 12.

Women's golfer Shweta Galande received senior female student athlete of the year. According to the UMSL website, Galande has led the women's team to four straight NCAA Super Regional appearances and twice qualified for the NCAA Championship for an individual.

Softball ranked second in the GLVC playoffs, and won the third most victories in school history, 35 games, and conference games in school history, 26 games. After two losing seasons, women's bas-

ketball achieved a winning record at 15-12.

Men's soccer lost the championship round of the GLVC playoffs to Rockhurst, 1-0. Women's soccer did not have a good year on the field but posted a 3.11 GPA and named the National Coaches recipient 2012 College Team Academic Award.

Men's golf earned a bid to the NCAA Regional tournament as the top seed in the Midwest Regional. Golfer Joe Atkisson won gold medal honors at the GLVC Championship defeating Rockhurst's Tanner Buleski in a playoff hole.

Men's tennis player Tim Gorter was a singles best 15-7, mostly as a number three player.

Women's tennis players Louisa Werner and Renee Verhoven received All-GLVC honors, along with volleyball's Liz Jaeger.

Women's golf will play in the Super Regionals for the fourth straight year.

Women's Lacrosse is coming to UMSL

ALBERT NALL
STAFF WRITER

On April 30, an organizational meeting was held in Millennium Student Center 314 to establish a women's lacrosse team. Among the issues discussed at the meeting were such things as an overview of Club Lacrosse, as well as equipment/uniforms and fundraising for the new club. Team Lacrosse's organizer and coordinator is Abby Feldman, junior, mathematics and secondary education, a transfer student to UMSL. "I transferred to UMSL because of the opportunities with the education program, and it is close to home," Feldman said.

The Current: Whose idea was it to form a lacrosse club at [University of Missouri-St. Louis], and what experience do you have in playing lacrosse?

Feldman: After experiencing lacrosse at the club level at Truman State University, I immediately wanted to start a team at UMSL. I had a great time playing club lacrosse at Truman, and I hope that UMSL will be the same. In addition, the team gave me and my teammates the chance to meet fellow lacrosse players from nearby universities. I have played three years of high school lacrosse, as well as two years in college.

TC: I understand that lacrosse will not be an official UMSL sport coordinated by the Department of Athletics, but instead by the recreational sports department in the Mark Twain Building. Who will be the advisor of the team?

AF: I have been working closely with Jessica Long[-Pease] from Student Life, and she has been extremely helpful in helping start this new organization. She is looking for an advisor for the team.

TC: Who are the teams that UMSL will be playing in the new recreational league?

AF: We will be in the same league with Truman State. Truman plays teams all over the Midwest, including Kansas State, Creighton, Principia, Missouri State, Iowa State, Kansas, Mizzou and Arkansas. The season will take place in the spring of 2014. We also plan to play in some St. Louis tournaments in the fall of 2013.

TC: What is the budget for this new team, and will it be covered in part by student activities fees

that go to campus recreation?

AF: I am unaware of any funds we may receive from student activities fees from campus recreation. We plan to do some extensive fundraising in the beginning because of the many expenses in this inaugural season, including equipment and uniforms that will be used in future seasons.

TC: Are there any lacrosse players we should be looking out for in the local area that we are aware of who may be on this new team, or are you still recruiting for some players who may not have actual lacrosse-playing experience?

AF: We are looking for anyone who wants to join the women's lacrosse team. Counting myself, there are six girls interested in playing. Out of that six, I know of four that have experience with the game. One of the girls is coming from Hazelwood West. We are very excited to have any incoming freshmen, regardless of lacrosse experience, on the team, and we do train those new in the sport. This team is being created to provide a fun sport that can bring camaraderie within the school. Six is a great start, but to field a team, we need 11 girls with at least two subs.

TC: I understand that there are rules in women's lacrosse that [regard] contact of players. How is contact penalized, as opposed to basketball and soccer?

AF: There is contact in women's lacrosse, but it is not nearly as much as in the men's game. The men wear padding, and we do not; we only wear goggles and a mouthguard with no helmet. Just as in basketball or soccer, pushing is not allowed, and absolutely no contact of the stick to the body is allowed. In women's lacrosse, there is an imaginary one-foot sphere around the head that is penalized if an opponent's stick comes into it. Fouls in lacrosse are for pushing, stick in sphere, tripping, charging, etc. The fouls are not charged to a player or a team, and the position changes between teams when a foul occurs. Just as in soccer, when a player fouls another player to a great extent, they receive a yellow or red card. The player then has to sit out for two minutes for either card, and no substitute can come in for them. When the player receives two yellow cards or one red card in a game, they are suspended from the game after the two-minute penalty, and only then can a substitute come in for them.